

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claim 4.

Please amend claims 1, 5, 9, and 41 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)      A polymer composition comprising:  
a first component being an adipic polyester;  
a second component being a natural polymer; and  
a third component being a thermoplastic polyester, wherein the first component, second component and third component are combined to form the polymer composition.
  
2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)      A polymer composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein the natural polymer is starch.
  
3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)      A polymer composition as set forth in claim 2 wherein the starch is granular.
  
4. (CANCELED)
  
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)      A polymer composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein the thermoplastic polyester is ~~one from a group comprising~~ at least one of poly(lactic acid), cellulose acetate, polycaprolactone, polyhydroxy(butyrate-co-valerate)(PHBV), poly(butylene succinate adipate), poly(butylene succinate), aliphatic-aromatic copolymer, and poly(ethylene terephthalate)(PET).

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A polymer composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein the second component is present in an amount up to about 74 wt.%.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A polymer composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein the first component is present in an amount up to about 40 wt.%.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A polymer composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein the third component is present in an amount up to about 80 wt.%.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A polymer composition as set forth in claim 1 including a fourth component ~~from a group comprising~~ being at least one of an external lubricant, nucleating agent and plasticizer.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A polymer composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein the natural polymer has a moisture content of less than about 15 wt.%.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A polymer composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein the polymer composition is biodegradable.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A polymer composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein the polymer composition is processed into an article that keeps its shape at temperatures of up to and more than about 100°C.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A polymer composition as set forth in claim 1 wherein the polymer composition is annealed to increase high temperature stability.

14. (CANCELED)

15. (CANCELED)

16. (CANCELED)

17. (CANCELED)

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37. (CANCELED)

38. (CANCELED)

39. (CANCELED)

40. (CANCELED)

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A polymer composition comprising:

a first component being a hydroxy-functional polymer;

a second component being a natural polymer; and

a third component being a thermoplastic polyester, wherein the first component, second component and third component are combined to form the polymer composition and wherein the hydroxy-functional polymer is a poly(hydroxy ester ether)(PHEE) in an amount of about 1 wt.%.